

MAR 31 2008

Application No. 10/539,630  
Amendment dated March 31, 2008  
Reply to Office Action of January 2, 2008

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Docket No.: 63572(46342)

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Applicants respectfully request that the application be amended without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) An antisense polynucleotide comprising the entire or part of a base sequence complementary or substantially complementary to a base sequence of a polynucleotide encoding a protein having the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by of SEQ ID NO: 1, or its partial peptide.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Withdrawn)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Withdrawn)

8. (Withdrawn)

9. (Withdrawn)

10. (Withdrawn)

11. (Withdrawn)

12. (Withdrawn)

13. (Withdrawn)

14. (Withdrawn)

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15. (Withdrawn)

16. (Withdrawn)

17. (Withdrawn)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) An apoptosis inducing agent comprising a compound or its salt that inhibits the expression of a gene for a protein comprising the same or substantially the same amino acid sequence as the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1, its partial peptide, or a salt thereof the antisense polynucleotide according to claim 3.

20. (Withdrawn)

21. (Withdrawn)

22. (Withdrawn)

23. (Withdrawn)

24. (Withdrawn)

25. (Withdrawn)

26. (Withdrawn)

27. (Withdrawn)

28. (New) An antisense polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide encoding a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, or a polynucleotide complementary thereto.

29. (New) The antisense polynucleotide according to claim 3, comprising the sequence selected from a group consisting of SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:11 and SEQ ID NO:12.

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30. (New) An apoptosis inducing agent comprising the antisense polynucleotide according to claim 28 or 29.